



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

19 March 1971

Honorable J. W. Fulbright
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am concerned over the misunderstanding that apparently developed in connection with the rescheduling of my appearance in the hearings of your Committee on the Geneva Protocol. I should therefore like to clarify the circumstances of the rescheduling.

Approximately one hour before my scheduled appearance on Thursday at 10:30 a.m., I was informed for the first time that the Committee would meet only in morning session and that two other witnesses were to precede me. As a result of discussions between members of our respective staffs, it seemed most likely that there would not be sufficient time remaining for me to complete my testimony that day. It was then mutually agreed to be preferable for my appearance to be rescheduled for a later day in a session that would provide more adequate time for my testimony. There was no suggestion that this arrangement would inconvenience the Committee.

The fact that the testimony of the other two witnesses lasted until about 12:30 p.m., Thursday, reinforces the belief that there would not have been sufficient time remaining for me to be heard that day.

This is the sole reason for the rescheduling. In particular, I wish to dispel any impression that I would have considered a luncheon engagement more important than my appearance.

Because of the interest of a number of individual members of the Committee in this unfortunate misunderstanding, I am taking the liberty of sending each of them a copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

Elwarsen Carter

Dele. Capen has talked to Sen. Sparkman and Sen. Hillen. They was not upset in the first place. This is a "non-issue" continued by Sen. Fulbright's staff. HSP

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